

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 13-21 and 27-31 being independent.

The abstract has been replaced to better set forth the technical features of the invention.

With respect the claims, certain claims have been amended to further distinguish Applicant's invention from the cited art. In addition, editorial changes have been made to a number of claims as well. In amending the claims, the Examiner's suggestion for amending Claims 8 and 12 have been followed. In addition, Claims 32-36 have been added to provide an additional scope of protection. Support for the claim amendments and the new claims can be found beginning on page 7, line 20 of the specification.

Claims 1-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Particular attention was paid to the grounds for this rejection as set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. Accordingly, it is submitted that all of the claims are in full compliance with the particularity and distinctness requirements of the statute. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 21-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Pepin '131. In addition, Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being obvious over Pepin in view of Kageyama '180. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 21 of Applicant's invention related to a controlling apparatus comprised of an input unit adapted to input data from a remote information processing apparatus which can selectively send data of a series of originals including at least both of a specific page including a command for causing a printer apparatus to perform specific processing and a page where the command is not included and data of a series of originals where the specific pages are not included, and a controller adapted to cause the printer apparatus to perform a printing process of input originals data from the remote information processing apparatus. The controller causes the printer apparatus to perform the printing process of data and causes the printer apparatus to perform the specific processing, in case that the data inputted by the input unit is the data of the series of originals including at least both of the specific page including the command for causing the printer apparatus to perform the specific processing and the page where command is not included, and the controller causes the printer apparatus to perform the printing process of the data, without executing specific processing, in case that the data input by the input unit is the data of the series of originals where the specific page is not included.

Claims 27 and 28 relate to an image processing method and a computer readable storage medium, respectively, and correspond to Claim 21.

In Claim 29, an information processing apparatus includes, along with a generator, a controller adapted to cause a printer apparatus to perform the printing process of the data and causes the printer apparatus to perform the specific processing, in case that the data generated by the generator is the data of the series of originals including at least both of the specific page including the command causing the printer apparatus to perform the specific

processing and the page where the command is not included. In addition, the controller causes the printer apparatus to perform the printing process of the data, without executing specific processing, in case that the data generated by the generator is the data of the series of originals where the specific page is not included.

The patent to Pepin relates to a print system that includes a deferred job assembly feature. The Office Action assert that Pepin includes input means for inputting data of the series of originals, and judgement means for judging whether or not a page exists in the input data of a series of originals sent from the information processing apparatus with a page unit.

In contrast to Applicant's invention, however, Pepin is not understood to teach or suggest, among other features, an input unit adapted to input data from a remote information processing apparatus as set forth in Claim 21 or an information processing apparatus which can send data to a remote device as set forth in Claim 29. Instead, Pepin is understood to provide an integrated copy machine that includes a scanner, a printer, and a controller, and does not teach or suggest using data from a remote location in the manner set forth in Applicant's claimed invention.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 21-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is respectfully requested.

In Claim 1 of Applicant's invention, the server apparatus includes, among other features, development means for sequentially developing page-description-language data of each page of a print job, determining means for determining whether or not each page of the print job is replaceable, and image transfer means for transferring print image data stored in a print

image data storage means to the image processing apparatus. As claimed, the transferred print image data corresponds to a designated page of a print job designated in an image data obtaining request from the image processing apparatus and is uniquely selected from the stored print image data with reference to a job management table on the basis of the image data obtaining request from the image processing apparatus.

Claims 13 and 17 relate to a control method of a server apparatus and a computer readable storage method, respectively, and correspond substantially to Claim 1.

Claim 3 relates to a server apparatus that includes development means for substantially developing a page-description-language of each page included in a print job to be input into print image data, and judgement means for judging whether or not each page of the print job is an insert page to which image data externally input is inserted. In addition, a page-judgement-result transfer means transfers information indicating whether or not a designated page of a designated print job is the insert page to the image processing apparatus with reference to the job management table in accordance with an inquiry from the image processing apparatus, and image link means stores the image data transferred from the image processing apparatus and updates the page management information of the corresponding page so as to link the stored image data with the designated page of the designated print job.

Claims 14 and 18 correspond substantially to Claim 3, but relate to a method and computer readable storage method, respectively.

Claim 5 relates to an image processing apparatus that has been amended to include, among other features, control means for at least partially controlling a print process in

which, for each page of the selected print job, the server apparatus sequentially determines whether or not a page is a replaceable page that is to be replaced with one or more other pages when the page of the print job is printed, with the information processing apparatus issuing an image data obtaining request to the server apparatus to obtain print image data corresponding to the pages of the selected print job in accordance with the determination of the server apparatus. In addition, the information processing apparatus transfers the obtained print image data transferred to a printer unit while instructing the replacement of the replacement page or pages of the print job with insert original pages scanned by a scanner unit in real time so that the print image data is printed by the printer unit with the replaceable page or pages being replaced by the insert original pages scanned.

Claims 15 and 19 relate to a method and computer readable storage method, respectively, and generally correspond to Claim 5.

Lastly, Claim 9 relates to an image processing apparatus that includes issuance means for issuing a job-selection-list obtaining request usable to select print jobs being managed by a server apparatus, selection means, and control means for transferring input image data to the server apparatus by executing processing in which, for each of pages of the selected print job, it is sequentially determined whether or not the page is a replaceable page that is to be replaced with one or more other pages when the page of the print job is printed.

Claims 16 and 20 relate to a method and a computer readable storage method, respectively, and generally correspond to Claim 9.

With respect to independent Claims 1, 5, and 9, and their respective corresponding claims, it is submitted that Pepin does not teach or suggest at least the features discussed above. In Pepin, place holders are used to defer assembly of a job.

The secondary citation to Kageyama relates to a document printing method and was cited for teaching a print job selection list for displaying print jobs from a print job table. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Kageyama fails to compensate for the deficiencies in Pepin as discussed above.

With respect to Claim 3 (and corresponding 14 and 18), the Office Action asserts that Pepin includes a server apparatus which inputs a print job and transfers print image data to an image processing apparatus. It is acknowledged that Pepin discloses that print jobs may be derived from multiple sources that can be scanned using a scanner for printing. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Pepin fails to teach or suggest at least Applicant's claimed judgment means, list transfer means, and image link means as recited in Claim 3. In this regard, Applicant respectfully takes issue with the assertion that the judging of place holders and the linking of information is inherently taught in Pepin, at least to the extent it is set forth in Applicant's claims.

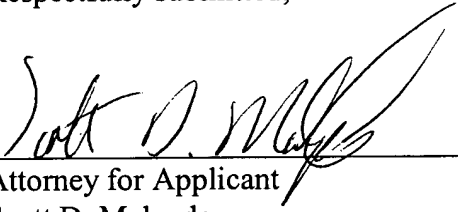
The secondary citation to Kageyama fails to compensate for the deficiencies in Pepin.

Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 13-21 and 27-31 is patentable. In addition, dependent claims 2, 4, 6-8, 10-12, 22-26 and 32-36 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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